



WILL ASK STOVER REASONS FOR DELAY

Officials Learn \$250,000 Appropriation for Playgrounds Is Untouched.

EAST SIDE WILL SUFFER

Development of Old Centres and Creation of New Ones Cannot Be Completed for Coming Season.

On learning that practically the whole sum of \$250,000 awarded last summer for playground development in this city is still untouched, playground officials are planning to call on Park Commissioner Stover to learn the reasons for the delay. It was said yesterday by one of these officials that so far only \$6,000 of this fund had been spent, and that it had been used in the execution of plans.

The sum of \$4,000 or more for playground apparatus, which was to have been taken months ago from the amount appropriated, has not been expended because of difficulty in the matter of contracting for it. The original bidder abandoned his contract at the suggestion of the Park Department because of unnecessary delay. It is still, however, "in the air," bids now being advertised for in The City Record.

In making his request for \$250,000 Commissioner Stover made it plain to the Board of Estimate and Apportionment that in the event that the sum was awarded he would begin as soon as possible to rebuild some of the older grounds and improve others, as well as to create entirely new recreation centres. The money was appropriated in June and was available in the latter part of July.

When asked as to his plans at that time Mr. Stover said it would not be advisable to disturb the present play centres at a time when they were most in use, but that in the winter the work of improvement would be started. To this end he held numerous conferences with Howard Bradstreet, at that time Supervisor of Recreation, and Mr. Vidotto, architect of the department.

Announced Extensive Plans.

In the course of the winter Mr. Stover made several announcements regarding new play centres, which included those under the bridge approaches on the East Side. Plans, he said, were being prepared for the development of one of the largest playgrounds in the city—that to be situated under the Manhattan approach to the Queensboro Bridge. He also said that here would be built a large stadium, which would accommodate thousands.

But the Queensboro ground was only one of a chain along the East River front. At the Williamsburg Bridge approach was to be a vast baseball field, which would be one of the best in the city. There were also to be tennis courts, and still other areas in that same district for the younger children.

The playground officials who are criticizing Commissioner Stover for the delay in putting his schemes into execution do not doubt in the least that he has in a tentative state a remarkable playground programme and that he has considered carefully his recommendations. What they do believe, however, is that the Park Commissioner should by now have made some showing because of his own knowledge of the needs for more play centres and the inadequacy of some of the older grounds.

When Howard Bradstreet resigned, some weeks ago, as Supervisor of Recreation he said he had not been supported by Commissioner Stover in matters that he, as Supervisor, had recommended, but that he believed the delay of Mr. Stover in putting into effect his schemes of development would bring upon the Commissioner severe criticism. Mr. Bradstreet also intimated that the constant delay would not insure the success of any definite plan of work.

Bradstreet Foresaw Trouble.

In the matter of playground material it was said that there had been so much to hinder its purchase that it would not be available for the coming season. And, finally, Mr. Bradstreet said he did not care to take the responsibility for a delay that would surely be placed on his shoulders, although it did not belong there.

Commissioner Stover has been actively inspecting the plans for the new recreation centres and those for the development of the old prepared by the architect of the Park Department. He has had in mind the conversion of part of Mulberry Bend Park as a Richard Watson Gilder memorial; he has in view the conversion of part of Colonial Park as a playground, the latter a project opposed by Samuel Parsons, the landscape architect; he has in mind the plans for a playground, running track and swimming tank in Central Park, which now is for him alone to condemn or approve, and which Dr. Henry Moskowitz, of the Downtown Ethical Society, has condemned as the chairman of the Citizens Union committee.

These are only a few projects of Commissioner Stover, who has said that to complete his schemes for the betterment of the parks and the playgrounds it will take from four to five years. What the playground officials want, however, is some concrete examples of this plan during the coming summer. They heartily commend the Commissioner for trying to get empty lots as baseball fields and the use of West street as a baseball ground on Sundays. But they also believe that Mr. Stover should by now have made more of a showing with his \$250,000, for never have playgrounds been more in demand, as centres for recreation as well as a relief for the overcrowded parks.

"It was the most unfortunate circumstance in the administration of Mr. Stover," said a playground official yesterday, "that he should have allowed anything to come in between him and Mr. Bradstreet, for the latter would have been of great service to him in making a definite advance in playground activity in this city."

SNAPSHOTS OF NEW YORK'S EASTER PARADE ON FIFTH AVENUE.

THE CROWD ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE AVENUE, OPPOSITE THE UNION CLUB.



MRS. AUSTEN GRAY AND HER LITTLE DAUGHTER.
(Photograph by American Press Association.)



EX-SENATOR CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW AND MRS. DEPEW.

GASOLINE BLOWS MAN AND WIFE INTO WATER

Terrific Explosion Destroys Boat and Makes Pillar of Flame Seen for Miles.

TWO ON BOARD RESCUED

Three Tanks, Each Containing 5,000 Gallons, Go Up on Barge Off City Island, Making Spectacular Display.

A few minutes after fire was discovered aboard the gasoline supply boat Texas, of the Texas Company, of No. 17 Battery Place, shortly after 10 o'clock last night, three gasoline tanks, reported to have contained 5,000 gallons each, exploded and completely wrecked the vessel, which was anchored in Long Island Sound, opposite Schofield street, City Island.

Captain John Pierce and his wife were thrown from the vessel when the first explosion occurred, and were picked up by Daniel Oakes in his motor boat and taken to the Prospect Hotel. The boat broke its moorings and drifted in the direction of Execution Light.

Flames shot two hundred feet in the air, and the illumination caused by the burning oil was seen in The Bronx, Brooklyn and many parts of Manhattan, and far up the Sound.

Firemen and volunteers jumped into boats and raised the anchors of vessels near the burning boat and moved them out of danger. The fireboat George B. McCallan was summoned from East 9th street. Streams of water were turned on the blazing vessel, but it did not extinguish the burning oil. The blazing boat drifted slowly down the Sound, illuminating the whole of City Island and a part of The Bronx. It was followed by the fireboats, and streams of water were kept on it to prevent the explosion of a 5,000-gallon tank stored in the rear of the vessel, which was said to contain kerosene.

The Texas, a few moments after the explosion was a complete wreck. The loss is estimated at \$6,000. According to the captain of the vessel, who had just returned to the boat after attending a church service on City Island, he discovered fire near a forward tank, which he tried to extinguish, but the blaze was beyond his control.

Serious that his life, as well as that of his wife, was endangered, he started to descend to the rowboat. The moment they reached the side of the vessel a flame two hundred feet in height shot into the air, and he and his wife leaped. The two other tanks of gasoline exploded a moment later. Persons who witnessed the explosion rushed to motor boats and other craft, knowing that the captain and his wife were aboard.

Daniel Oakes leaped into the Triton and put out toward the blazing boat at full speed. He rescued Captain Pierce and his wife and brought them to the floating stage at Carroll street.

The sleeping quarters and cabin of the wrecked vessel, which were between the two forward and the two aft tanks, were blown away, and a dog, which the captain is known to have had aboard the boat, is thought to have been killed. The Texas was about two hundred yards from shore when the explosion occurred and the impact was felt in City Island.

The fighting of the fire on the oil craft was done at the risk of the firemen, as a tank containing five thousand gallons was intact and was expected to explode at any moment.

Each \$12.50 invested now ought to be worth \$100.00 later. Chamber Commerce references. If you have money to invest investigate. Box 116, Mt. Vernon, Ohio—Adv.

HOLD-UP MEN IN FLATBUSH SHOOT GIRL

Attempt to Flee After Demand for Cash Is Followed by Five Bullets.

FALLS WITH BROKEN ANKLE

Robbers, Said To Be Italians, Take to Flight on Approach of Patrolmen and Get Away.

Mamie Fallon, a telephone operator, who lives at Malbone street and Kingston avenue, Flatbush, was shot by two hold-up men in the Italian settlement in Malbone street, near her home, last night. Although the mounted police scoured the neighborhood immediately after hearing the fusillade of shots and the girl's screams, the two men escaped.

Miss Fallon is in the Kings County Hospital with a shattered ankle. She told the police that she was on her way home when she was set upon by two men, who were standing near an electric light pole. They had broken the lampost and put out the light near by, so that they might work with less chance of detection.

Miss Fallon said that they thrust two revolvers into her face and demanded her valuables, threatening to kill her if she refused or made an outcry. The girl screamed and started to run. The men fired five shots at her, but in the darkness their aim was poor and only one took effect. It struck the heel of the shoe on Miss Fallon's left foot, deflected upward and shattered her ankle. She fell to the ground screaming for help.

The district where the hold-up took place is known as "Pigtown," and is one of the worst parts in Flatbush. Extra patrolmen are kept on duty, and Mounted Patrolman Ferris, who was two blocks away, rushed to the spot at a gallop, and his coming scared the men off.

Patrolmen McCormick and Hall, of the Snyder avenue station, followed on a run, and while Hall cared for the injured girl the other patrolman made a hasty search of the neighborhood for the two men.

The population of the neighborhood is entirely Italian, and at the sound of the shots they turned out of their homes with their own revolvers. Several of those who were armed fired more shots in their excitement, and for some time the district was greatly excited.

Dr. McDonald, of the Kings County Hospital, attended Miss Fallon, and removed her to that institution. She was able to give the police a fair description of the men, and it is expected that they will be arrested to-day.

DIES TRYING TO SAVE WOMAN

Central Flagman Proves Hero, but His Effort Is in Vain.

Buffalo, April 16.—Thomas Maher, fifty-one years old, a New York Central flagman, lost his life to-night in an heroic but unsuccessful effort to save the life of a woman.

Mrs. Ella Sheehan, sixty-one years old, and her daughter, Mrs. Robert Kinella, were crossing the tracks at Shelton avenue, Lancaster, when the elder woman fell. She was heavy, and Mrs. Kinella was unable to lift her.

A mail train was approaching at high speed and Maher rushed to the aid of the women. He shoved Mrs. Kinella off the tracks and was trying to drag Mrs. Sheehan out of danger when the train struck them. Both were instantly killed.

Mrs. Sheehan buried her husband on Saturday and was on her way to visit a dying daughter to-day.

MEXICO HEARS U. S. WOULD URGE PEACE ON MADERO

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

The Legislature will reconvene to-day. One of the duties devolving upon it is the passage of legislation that will make a repetition of the Asch Building disaster impossible, and it is your duty to see to it that your representatives in Senate and Assembly are not allowed to neglect this work.

The most important of the meetings yet held by civic bodies interested in the fight for safety comes to-morrow night, when the Committee on Fire Prevention will emerge full grown. The agencies for reform are at hand. The Committee on Fire Prevention will recommend what is to be done; the Legislature and the Board of Aldermen must act appropriately. You can stir the legislators to action.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

LAKEWOOD FLYER KILLS THREE AT CROSSING

Baggage Master of Local Train Meets Death Trying to Save Two Women.

TRAIN GOING AT TOP SPEED

Aged Resident of Riverhead, N. J., and Her Daughter Victims of Fast Express in Elizabeth, N. J.

The Lakewood Flyer, whirling through Elizabeth, N. J., last night at the rate of more than seventy miles an hour, ploughed its way through a crowd of passengers waiting to board a local train at the Elizabeth avenue station and killed three persons, one of them a woman eighty-seven years old and another her daughter. The third was the baggage master of the local train, who met death trying to save the lives of the two women.

The victims of this latest accident at the dangerous crossing were Edward S. Saunders, of Point Pleasant, baggage master of a Perth Amboy local; Mrs. Ann Eliza Stone, eighty-seven years old, of Riverhead, N. J., and her daughter, Mrs. Hannah Cosgrove, of Belford, N. J. The two women had been visiting at the home of Chauncey Watson, at No. 352 First avenue, Elizabeth, and were on their way to take a southbound train on the Perth Amboy line when they were killed. Watson is a son-in-law of Mrs. Cosgrove, and the women had just left a young nephew of Watson when they started to cross the tracks to get their train.

The Perth Amboy train had just pulled into the station at 9 o'clock, and the women, with other passengers, started from the east to the west side of the crossing. The Lakewood Flyer is one of the fastest express trains on the Central Railroad of New Jersey, and it was due at the same crossing at 9:01 o'clock. The latter train does not make a stop at the Elizabeth avenue station, and goes through the town at high speed.

When Mrs. Cosgrove and her mother were almost in the centre of the express tracks, the onrushing express, bound for New York, suddenly appeared at the farther end of the station, swaying from side to side with the speed of its passage along the rails. The two women were too frightened to make the slightest effort to save themselves, and stood in the centre of the tracks, unable to move.

At this moment Saunders, standing in the baggage car of his train, saw the aged woman's peril and was quick to act. With a few leaps he was beside Mrs. Stone and her daughter, and grabbed them each by an arm, striving to pull them to safety. The task was more than he could accomplish, however, and while he was still trying he saw the Lakewood train bearing down on them with undiminished speed.

Even then Saunders did not try to save himself. Short as was the time, he would have had opportunity to jump aside and let the express go by. Instead of taking advantage of the opportunity, however, he gave a final desperate pull at the helpless women and almost succeeded in getting them out of the path of the locomotive, but before they were quite out of the path of the train the cowcatcher of the engine struck the huddled group and hurled them many feet through the air. All must have been killed instantly, as their bodies were terribly mangled when picked up.

After striking the three persons the express continued its night down the tracks, with no let-up in its speed. The accident happened so quickly that there were few people who got a clear idea as to how the victims met their death. When the shriek and roar of the passing train had died away those standing at the station saw that a terrible accident had occurred. Three inanimate forms were lying in the roadbed beside the tracks, more than fifty feet away, and when the people on the platform ran forward to see what had happened they found the two women and the baggage master dead and mutilated.

The bodies were taken to a local

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Believes Intervention Near, Unless Rebel Leader Makes Terms.

DENIAL AT WASHINGTON

Diaz Adherents Say That Strong Representations Have Been Made to Insurgents.

MOTIVE BEHIND THE MOVE

Suspicion That Disturbances Along the Border Were Intended to Force the Hand of the United States.

The substance of the following dispatch from The Tribune's special correspondent in the City of Mexico was read to a high government official in Washington last night. He said he knew of no conditions existing that would justify the belief of the Mexican officials that the State Department was preparing to put pressure on Madero, or that any act of intervention was being considered by the State Department. The dispatch was taken in Washington to reflect the opinion of Mexican officialdom rather than actual conditions.

That there is a decided undercurrent favorable to a peaceful conclusion of Mexico's troubles is confirmed in the dispatches from El Paso and Washington stating that messages from Dr. Gomez, the representative of Madero in Washington, to the insurgents in front of Juarez prevented an attack on that town.

(From a Special Correspondent of The Tribune.)

Mexico City, April 16 (Via Galveston, Tex.).—Francisco I. Madero, Jr., will receive peremptory notice from the State Department at Washington that intervention by the United States in Mexico's civil troubles is a strong, imminent, impending probability unless peace terms are speedily consummated between the Mexican government and the revolutionists. It depends upon Madero alone as to whether or not the probability develops into a reality.

This information was derived to-day by The Tribune's correspondent from two official sources, and it is not unlikely that some sort of a suggestion to the above effect has already been conveyed to Madero. This is indicated by the renewed impetus which during the last two days has been given to peace talks, which were reopened yesterday at the initiative of the Maderists, after having been virtually abandoned in consequence of Madero's insistence upon President Diaz's immediate resignation.

The Washington government has, according to this source of information, finally lost patience with Madero, and what steps the United States will take depends on Madero's attitude within the next few days and on the allied circumstances and developments. It is believed by those here who have cognizance of what the United States is contemplating that diplomatic processes—unofficial perhaps, but none the less forcible—will serve the end which Washington now has set itself to accomplish, namely, to bring about peace in Mexico. There is an obvious and disagreeable alternative which, of course, will not be resorted to unless Madero refuses to conclude peace. This, it is believed here, comprehends imparting necessary vigor to whatever suggestions the United States may submit to Madero by ordering enough troops over the Mexican frontier to police the disturbed sections.

No Aggression Contemplated.

Events of the last few days, particularly the affair at Agua Prieta, accelerated the United States government's creation of a sufficiently energetic but still tentative policy in dealing with the Mexican situation. It cannot be too positively stated that the spirit in which the United States contemplates acting is one of entirely sincere friendship to the Diaz government, and implies no aggressions on the national integrity of Mexico, either in the present or the future. Every assurance possible on this score will at the proper time be officially extended to the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Relations by the State Department.

If Madero holds any doubt as to what course the United States will pursue under certain contingencies he will soon be undeceived by the American State Department through his agent in Washington, Señor Gomez. Madero will be told bluntly that after careful weighing of the Mexican question and an exhaustive and impartial analysis of the elements involved in the differences between the Diaz government and the Maderist faction the United States government sees no sound reason why Madero should find it impossible to meet the federal authorities in peace terms. It is viewed by Washington authorities, as explained by the informants of The Tribune's correspondent, that Madero's arrogant stand, linked with his refusal to recede from the position that the summary resignation of Diaz is essential for the welfare of the country, creates an unnecessarily unfortunate obstacle to the re-establishment of peace. It has been taken into consideration by Washington, according to the understanding of the correspondent, and given all due weight, that the Mexican government has shown its good faith by instituting many changes which Madero has demanded and that Diaz pledged himself in his recent message to Congress to enact drastic reforms in legislation.

Reports from manifold sources in